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ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

**SOUTH HERTS (No. 1)
COMBINED
SANITARY DISTRICT**



MALCOLM GROSS

M.B., B.S., (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., (Eng.), D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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Printed by
Hadden, Best & Co., Ltd.,
London and Ipswich.



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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

MALCOLM GROSS, M.B., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
(Eng.), D.P.H.
(also Divisional Medical Officer, Dacorum Division, Hertfordshire C.C.).

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :—

ALAN C. HORNE, D.P.A., M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.
(Meat and Other Foods, Smoke and Sanitary Science Certificates—
R.S.I.)

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector :—

E. BIRCH; M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.
(Meat and Other Foods, and Smoke Certificates—R.S.I.)

Additional Sanitary Inspector :—

K. A. CHESTER, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.
(Meat and Other Foods, and Sanitary Science Certificates—R.S.I.)

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :—

R. H. T. CHAPPELL, B.Sc., M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I. and
S.I.E.J.B.
(Meat and Other Foods Certificate—R.S.I.)

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

Sanitary Inspector :—

G. E. BROGAN, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Meat and Other Foods Certificate—R.S.I.)

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

Sanitary Inspector :—

C. LAIDMAN, Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B., F.A.L.P.A.
(also Surveyor and Housing Manager to the District Council).

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

Sanitary Inspector :—

JAMES F. NORRIS, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,
M.S.I.A.
(also Surveyor to the District Council).

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P R E F A C E

Examination of the vital statistics for the District shows that both the birth rate 17.9 (16.8 in 1953) and the death rate 9.2 (9.8 in 1953) are somewhat flattering; this is due to the influx of population into the New Town, which consists of a greater than average proportion of younger married persons. The infantile mortality shows a fractional rise.

All these rates compare favourably with those corresponding for England and Wales.

As regards infectious diseases, the mildness of Scarlet Fever is indicated by the fact that only 7 of the 31 notified cases were removed to isolation hospital. The notifications of Whooping Cough numbered 97, as compared with 203 in 1953, while those for Measles dropped from 648 in 1953 to only 152, of which 83 occurred in Berkhamsted Rural District and 51 in Berkhamsted Urban District.

This District was again visited lightly by Poliomyelitis, there being a total during the year of only 3 cases; unfortunately, one of these cases was fatal.

The lateness of issue of this Report is due to inadequate office staff.

MALCOLM GROSS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
“Churchill,”
Park Road,
Hemel Hempstead,
Herts.

August, 1955.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

STATISTICS

The Borough comprises	...	...	...	...	7,193 acres
Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1954	...	...	...	...	33,840
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954) according to rate books	...	...	...	...	10,429
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£215,467
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£933

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Total	M.	F.	
LIVE BIRTHS	(Legitimate	662	328	334	) BIRTH-RATE
					) per 1,000 of the
	(Illegitimate	20	12	8	estimated resident population 20.2
STILL-BIRTHS	(Legitimate	21	15	6	) STILLBIRTH-RATE per 1,000
					(live and still)
	(Illegitimate	2	2	—	births 32.6
DEATHS	...	279	150	129	DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 8.2

Deaths from Puerperal Causes 1

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	14.7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	...	...	...	...	15.1
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	...	...	...	NIL
Actual number of deaths under one year:					
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	10) Total
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	NIL) 10

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 61

Deaths from Measles (all ages) NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... NIL

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 279 deaths, 120 were attributable to Heart or Circulatory disease. There were 4 deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis and 32 from other respiratory diseases, and 61 deaths from Cancer. One death occurred from Influenza, one from Acute Poliomyelitis, one from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one from childbirth. Five deaths occurred from motor vehicle accidents.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

Of the 10 deaths, 9 occurred in children under the age of four weeks. Eight of these were prematurely born. The ninth occurred from Cerebral Haemorrhage and the tenth child died from congenital disease.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1954.

Visits and Inspections.

Meat Inspection.

Carcasses inspected at Slaughterhouses :

Calves	...	...	...	...	42
Sheep	...	...	...	...	292
Pigs	...	...	...	...	109

Complaints.

Number of complaints investigated ... 454

General.

Houses—Public Health Acts	...	...	...	184
Housing Acts	...	...	...	99
Housing Act Survey	...	...	...	179
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	76
Overcrowding	...	...	...	117
Council house applicants	...	...	...	417
Water supplies	...	...	...	276
Drainage and cesspools	...	...	...	523
Common lodging houses	...	...	...	11
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	140
Factories, workshops and outworkers' premises	...	...	...	126
Building sites	...	...	...	203
Schools	...	...	...	3
Theatres, cinemas and public halls	...	...	...	1
Swimming pool	...	...	...	9
Shops Act	...	...	...	295
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	320

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	17
Rag Flock Act	...	...	...	1
Fireguards Act	...	...	...	8
Pests Act—rats and mice	...	...	...	1761
Dirty and verminous premises	...	...	...	51
Flies and insects	...	...	...	136
Offensive trades	...	...	...	2
Smoke observations and boiler house visits	...	...	...	23
Fairgrounds	...	...	...	14
Revisits to dwellings under Notice	...	...	...	1017
Interviews	...	...	...	1190
Other visits	...	...	...	1112

FOOD PREMISES :

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	66
Butchers' shops	...	...	...	72
Food preparing rooms	...	...	...	28
Fishmongers	...	...	...	23
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	18
Bakehouses	...	...	...	41
Licensed premises	...	...	...	70
Restaurants, dining rooms and kitchens	...	...	...	74
Factory, building site and mobile canteens	...	...	...	67
Public market and food stalls	...	...	...	58
Dairies and milkshops	...	...	...	74
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	107
Other food premises	...	...	...	229
Mobile food shops	...	...	...	11
Food inspection visits	...	...	...	108

SAMPLES TAKEN :

Milk	...	...	...	79
Milk bottle rinses	...	...	...	24
Ice cream	...	...	...	18
Water	...	...	...	218
Swimming pool	...	...	...	18

NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH.

	Outstanding 31.12.53	Served 1954	Completed 1954	Outstanding 31.12.54
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PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Informal	...	36	161	148	49
Formal	...	8	11	15	4

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

HOUSING ACT					
Informal					
(Repairs) ...	4	11	6	9	
Formal (Demolition Orders) ...	14	17	4	27	
(Closing Orders)	1	Nil	Nil	1	
(Undertakings)	4	5	3	6	
SHOPS ACT					
Informal ...	4	23	25	2	
FACTORIES ACT					
Informal ...	5	11	9	7	
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT					
Informal ...	12	9	17	4	
PETROLEUM ACTS					
Informal ...	6	9	11	4	
PESTS ACT	...	Nil	5	5	Nil
PET ANIMALS ACT	Nil	1	Nil	1	
	—	—	—	—	—
	94	263	243	114	
	—	—	—	—	—

Nuisances Abated : Defects and Contraventions Remedied.

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Houses disinfected after infectious disease ...	...	4
Houses treated for bed-bugs—Council houses ...	...	4
Other houses ...	...	12
Houses treated for other vermin ... ... ...	...	28
Houses treated for ants and wasps ... ... ...	...	30
Loads of bedding steam-treated ... ... ...	...	3

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Production and Distribution.

Since the introduction of The Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 3) Order, 1953, into this district in October, 1954, all milk retailed in the Borough is Designated, and the only milk not heat-treated is that sold as raw tuberculin-tested

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

milk. I still look forward to the day when all milk is heat-treated.

There are no heat-treatment plants in the town and the dairies only handle bottles of milk or sealed churns—the latter for use in canteens and institutions. As bottling is now carried out on the heat-treatment premises, this has resulted in the elimination of rinse examinations of washed bottles in the Borough.

Bacteriological examination of milk has usually produced satisfactory results.

Milk Sampling.

	Produced in Borough		Produced outside Borough	
	Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
DESIGNATED MILK— Pasteurised	Nil	Nil	52	Nil
Tuberculin Tested	19	4	2	2

Milk Bottle Tests.

Bottles tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Ice Cream.

No ice cream is manufactured in the Borough.

Bacteriological Examination of Ice Cream sold in the Borough.

Number of Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Satisfactory (Grades I and II)	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Unsatisfactory (Grades III and IV)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Meat and Other Foods.

Slaughterhouses :

The Sanitary Inspector states: "Meat was derationed in July last and occupiers of slaughterhouses are again able to use them if the local authority issues the appropriate licences. Three small private slaughterhouses have been licensed annually throughout the period of meat rationing, although killing has been restricted to odd casualties and cottagers' pigs. Two of these licensed premises are now used for the killing of calves, pigs and sheep according to the occupiers' own needs; the third premises are to be converted for use as a cold store."

Supplies of meat from large slaughtering firms in other areas have proved adequate and at the moment there appears to be no real demand for increased slaughtering facilities here."

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

The following table shows the extent of tuberculosis and other diseases found on post-mortem examination of animals slaughtered in the Borough during 1954 :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excl- uding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	—	—	42	292	109
Number Inspected	—	—	42	292	109
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	1	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	2.38	0.68	Nil
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	0.92

Bakehouses :

The remaining two underground bakehouses in the Town closed during the year.

Registration of Food Premises :

Registration of premises for the sale, manufacture and storage of ice cream or for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale is required by Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. The many demolitions and changes of occupiers of premises in the town rendered a careful check of the existing register a necessity and notices were served in appropriate cases with a view to cancelling registrations where premises no longer existed or there had been a change of use. As a result, 15 addresses were deleted from the register.

Foodstuffs Found to be Unfit for Human Consumption :

Fresh Meat	779 lbs.	Fish	84 lbs.
Cooked or Tinned Meat	371 lbs.	Tinned Fish ...	222 tins.
Cheese	1129 lbs.	Tins or Packets ...	2054
Other goods ... ...	... ...	105 lbs.	

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Licensed Premises :

In extension of improvements carried out in 1953, the Sanitary Inspector states: "A further nine premises were improved, the improvements including additional sanitary accommodation, new bar sinks, hot water supply to sinks, improved kitchens and redecoration. New premises, 'The Golden Cockerel,' were opened to serve the Bennetts End area, while two old premises were closed and demolished."

Clean Food Campaign.

In connection with the increased interest in food cleanliness and the stress on the importance of the subject, the following information is provided :—

(a) NUMBER AND TYPE OF FOOD PREMISES :

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Fishmongers—wet and dried fish only				...	...	...	2
wet, dried and fried fish				...	...	...	10
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Grocers and Greengrocers (mixed trade)	...				...	...	26
Flour Confectionery (bread and cakes)	...				...	...	25
Sugar Confectionery (sweets)	...				...	...	58
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Licensed Premises serving main meals	...				...	...	14
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	28

(b) NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 14 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND THE NUMBER OF DAIRIES REGISTERED UNDER THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949 :

Sausage making, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	29
Sale of ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	68
Dairies (all depots for bottled milk received from outside the Borough)	...	...	...	...	...	5

(c) NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS OF REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES :

Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	229
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	107

(d) The only new activity to record is in connection with the Borough Exhibition (see Health Education, page 23). Food hygiene work has been somewhat curtailed as the result of extra work necessitated by New Town growth and the Housing Survey.

(e) METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD :

The major quantity is disposed of under supervision on

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

the Corporation's controlled tip; a small amount of butchers' meat and tinned foods are incinerated.

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

- INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	20	14	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	127	105	8	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	38*	203	2	—
TOTAL ...	185	322	10	—

* Sites of Building operations and works of Engineering construction.

- CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found :			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Reme- died	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector		
Sanitary conveniences—					
(a) insufficient	2	—(5)	—	—	
(b) unsuitable or defective	7(2)	2(6)	—	1	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	1	—	—	
TOTAL ...	9(2)	3(11)	—	1	

NOTE: Figures in brackets relate to Building sites.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

3. Outwork :

Making, etc., of wearing apparel	27
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper ...	93
Brush making	4
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.	14
Total	138

H O U S I N G.

Although the number of applicants for Council houses remains high (809 compared with 825 in 1953) it is worth noting that a total of 226 houses (including 48 flats) were completed by the local authority in 1954. This is a much higher figure than ever attained before.

On this subject, the Housing Manager makes the following remarks :—

“This has been an outstanding year, during which well over 200 houses and flats have been completed. This has resulted in an unusually large number of transfers, as well as making it possible to house a greater number of applicants than in the past year or two, so that a very considerable number of families have been given accommodation more suitable to their needs. Slum clearance can be said to have started on a small scale, families having been removed from seven properties which were no longer suitable for living accommodation. Arrangements were also made for rehousing 23 families from cottages near the Plough in preparation for the new roundabout, with the help of a few older properties loaned by the Development Corporation. A few of these removals still have to take place early in the new year.

This year has also seen the beginning of a general release of requisitioned properties. Thirteen houses have been released during this period, which has meant providing alternative accommodation for 22 families.

Over the year, good use has been made of the larger number of houses available, but in spite of all, the waiting list remains a long one.”

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

On the subject of unfit houses, the Chief Sanitary Inspector remarks :—

“Housing inspection work has increased during 1954, especially since the passing of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, which became operative on 30th August last. Inspectors’ time has recently been largely devoted to the survey necessitated by the request of the Minister of Housing and Local Government to be furnished with particulars of the Council’s slum clearance proposals.

In 1948 I reported the results of a pilot survey carried out at the request of the Development Corporation to ascertain the number of properties likely to be scheduled for demolition. This survey had to be completed in a very short time and it was made clear then that the categories in which dwellings were placed were provisional only and that some alterations would probably be necessary following detailed inspection of individual properties. The standard adopted at that time was a high one, following the lead given by the Government in their plans for post-war building. It was a higher standard than the new Housing Act demands for a fit house and compared very favourably with the points that must be complied with in applying for an improvement grant.

In that early report it was suggested that some 670 houses might be considered for demolition. Since then, 34 of these have been demolished or been subject to undertakings not to occupy for human habitation and a further 36 are awaiting demolition. In addition, 57 have been reconditioned and two put to other uses.”

It would appear that, in addition, a large number of the 400-odd houses not accounted for in the manner described above, have in fact become owner-occupied. The houses have presumably become of reduced value to owners because of the condition of restricted rents and they have sold them to the tenants, who have spent money on them to bring them above the standard of condemnation now in use. It may, therefore, be that the number to be scheduled for demolition will be found to have fallen 50 or 60.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 283

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1300
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	76
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	99
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	... 48

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	98
---	-------------	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

(a) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs		Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—		
(a) by owners	... ... ...	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	... .. ... ...	Nil
(b) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ... ...	11
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—		
(a) by owners	... ... ...	15
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	... ... ...	Nil
(c) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	17

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	4
(d) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936:	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—

It has not been possible to continue regular enquiries in respect of overcrowding, but it can be accepted that not very many cases now remain.

During the year 1954, the following houses were :—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY :—

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	58 6	2 and 3 bedroom houses Old Folks' bungalows	29

(b) COMPLETED :—

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	65 12 101 42 6	2-bed/3 person houses 3-bed/4 person houses 3-bed/5 person houses 2-bedroom flats 1-bedroom flats	38

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.54 was as follows :—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 UP TO 31.12.54 :—

Site	No. of Houses	Type
Crabtree Lane ...	31	Temporary Prefabricated—2 bedroom
Wood Crescent ...	19	Temporary Prefabricated—2 bedroom
Adeyfield ...	102	Permanent Prefabricated—3 bedroom
Adeyfield 2 ...	66	2 bedroom flats
Adeyfield 3 and 4	102	2 & 3 bedroom houses, and 1 & 2 bedroom flats
Belswains Estate ...	102	Permanent Brick—3 & 4 bedroom
Belswains 3 ...	26	Permanent Brick—2 & 3 bedroom
Belswains 4 ...	24	Permanent Brick—2 & 3 bedroom
Belswains 5 ...	18	Permanent Brick—2 & 3 bedroom
Beechfield 1 ...	50	Permanent Brick
Beechfield 2 ...	22	} Permanent Brick—Bungalows and 2 & 3 bedroom houses
Beechfield 3 ...	26	
Beechfield 4 ...	30	Permanent Brick—2 & 3 bedroom houses
Beechfield 5 ...	22	Permanent Brick—2 & 3 bedroom houses
Beechfield 6 ...	38	Permanent Brick—2 & 3 bedroom houses
Oakdene Road ...	6	Permanent Brick—3 bedroom
Fairway ...	25	Permanent Brick—3 bedroom
Fairway 5 ...	15	Permanent Brick—2 & 3 bedroom
Stonelea Road ...	14	Permanent Brick—3 bedroom
Vauxhall Road ...	14	Permanent Brick—3 bedroom
Seaton Road ...	1	Permanent Brick—3 bedroom
Deaconsfield Road	1	Permanent Brick—3 bedroom
Oliver Road ...	2	Permanent Brick—2 bedroom

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMMENCED SINCE 1.1.45, BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.54 :—

Site	No. of Houses	Type	No. commenced	No. completed
Crabtree Lane ...	54	2 & 3 bedroom	54	50
Warners End ...	58	2 & 3 bedroom	58	—
Adeyfield 5 ...	6	Old peoples' bungalows	6	—

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

(c) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) PROJECTED SINCE 1.1.54, i.e. SCHEMES ABOUT WHICH ARRANGEMENTS ARE IN HAND, BUT WHERE A START HAD NOT BEEN MADE AT 31.12.54 :—

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type
Belswains 6	20	4 shops, 9 houses, 2 flats and 5 bungalows
Highfield 2	56	2 & 3 bedroom "Wates" permanent, non-traditional houses
Highfield 4	50	2 & 3 bedroom houses; 1 & 2 bedroom flats. Permanent Brick.

Number of houses and huts requisitioned at end of 1954 :—

Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Huts	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Number of applicants on waiting list for Council houses at end of February, 1955 (after annual review) 809

I am indebted to the Hemel Hempstead Development Corporation for the following information regarding the progress of the New Town :—

"1. **Housing.** During 1954 the following new dwellings were completed by the Development Corporation :

19	1-bedroom
224	2-bedroom
653	3-bedroom
64	4-bedroom
—	—
960	—

The total number of dwellings completed at 31 December, 1954, was 4008. This figure of 960 was divided between the neighbourhoods as follows :

Adeyfield	171
Bennetts End	306
Chaulden	357
Warners End	114
Town Centre	12

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

The number of dwellings under construction at the end of 1954 was 1,221, made up as follows:

Adeyfield	49
Bennetts End	344
Chaulden	330
Warners End	419
Town Centre	79

During 1954, 980 dwellings were occupied. The total number of people who have moved into the new town is estimated at 13,200.

2. Industry. At the end of the year, 17 new factories with a total floor space of 714,000 sq. ft. had been completed, employing 3,650 workers.

3. Town Centre. 25 new shops were completed and 71 were under construction at the end of the year. The offices under construction total more than 30,000 sq. ft. A public convenience in the new market square was opened.

4. Schools. By the end of the year, five Primary School Departments and one Secondary Modern School had been built by the Hertfordshire County Council, and five Primary School Departments, a Secondary Modern School and a Grammar School were under construction. The estimated number of school children in the new town at 31 December was 2,550.

5. Public Houses. 'The Golden Cockerel, built by Courage & Co. Ltd., was opened in Bennetts End in December.

6. Social Facilities. Chaulden Hall has been in use as a meeting place since March, 1954, and some garages in Warners End are being converted into a hall for use as a temporary meeting place. Four shops in Chaulden were completed, and two opened before the end of the year. Six shops in Warners End were completed and opened, and a further eight are under construction."

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector states:—"Sewer extensions have continued in various parts of the Borough and several cesspools have been abolished as new sewers have been laid near existing properties.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Demolitions by the Development Corporation, particularly in the town centre, necessitated disused drains being cut off and sealed, work supervised by your inspectors. Supervision of building site sanitation required many visits."

WATER SUPPLIES.

The greater part of the Borough is supplied by mains water. A small area at Felden is connected to the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company's water supply and the remainder of the town is supplied from the Council's boreholes—two at Piccots End and two at the Waterworks in Marlowes.

The average daily consumption of water during the year was 2,100,000 gallons, an increase of 130,000 gallons on the previous year—presumably caused by the increased population of the developing new town. $7\frac{1}{2}$ further miles of distribution mains were laid in addition to 2 miles of 24" diameter and $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles of 15" diameter drain.

The Borough Engineer states:—"During the year the water tower at High Street Green was completed and the new permanent plant was put into service at Piccots End and Adeyfield Pumping Stations. All the water pumped to supply now passes through Adeyfield Reservoir, where it is retained in contact with the chlorine residual of 0.2 p.p.m. for a minimum period of 12 hours.

Other works in hand include the laying of the remainder of the 24" diameter main linking High Street Green with Boxted Reservoir. Ministry approval has been received to construct 5 m.g. service reservoir at Boxted and a tender has been accepted."

The Chief Sanitary Inspector states:—"Close co-operation with the Borough Engineer's Water Section was maintained. Every precaution was taken by the Water Section to prevent any contamination of the water supply when work was in progress, and samples were obtained at every stage to check the efficacy of these precautions; the total number of samples was more than double that of the previous year."

The table below, recording the results of sampling, shows that "only seven samples of raw water from Piccots End and two from Marlowes were unsatisfactory, while three samples

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

of chlorinated water taken at Boxted (house tap), Adeyfield (house tap) and Apsley (new main) respectively, failed to satisfy the laboratory test. Repeat samples were taken immediately and proved satisfactory. One sample was submitted for examination for the presence of fluorine; the amount contained was negligible. Three premises, where private supplies had proved unsatisfactory, were connected to the main."

Water Samples Taken During the Year 1954.

Description of Samples	No. of Samples					
	BACTERIOLOGICAL			CHEMICAL		
	Taken	Satis.	Unsatis.	Taken	Satis.	Unsatis.
Main Supply : Raw Water—						
Marlowes	11	9	2	4	4	—
Piccotts End	54	47	7	7	7	—
Chlorinated	82	79	3	2	2	—
Private supplies	56	21	35	1	1	—
Swimming pool	18	18	—	—	—	—

Main Water ... Total Hardness—23 to 26 parts per 100,000;
17.5 grains per gallon approx.

The following table gives particulars of the dwellings and population supplied from public water mains and from wells:—

Total Number in Borough	...	...	...	Dwellings 10429*	Persons 36000†
Number supplied from main—					
1. Direct	...	...	...	10387	35871
2. To outside standpipes	...	...	...	11	32
				—	—
Number supplied to wells		...	...	10398	35903
		...	...	31	97

* Supplied by Borough Treasurer.

† Estimate.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year 1954 :—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	9	1	Nil
Whooping Cough	28	2	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) ...	2	2	1
Measles	14	—	Nil
Dysentery	1	1	Nil
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	Nil
Erysipelas	3	—	Nil
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	Nil
Infectious Hepatitis	9	2	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	3	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Measles	Dysentery	Paratyphoid Fever	Erysipelas	Meningococcal Meningitis	Puerperal Pyrexia	Infectious Hepatitis
Under 1 year ...	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 2 years ...	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 to 3 "	2	2	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
3 to 4 "	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
4 to 5 "	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 10 "	4	13	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15 "	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 20 "	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
20 to 35 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
35 to 45 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
45 to 65 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
65 years and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	9	28	2	14	1	1	3	1	3	9

It is possible that in both cases of Paralytic Poliomyelitis the disease was contracted outside the district, and in one case, abroad; this latter case was fatal.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

As regards the case of Paratyphoid "B" Fever, joint investigation with the Ministry of Health revealed probable infection from food bought outside the district and contaminated by an ingredient from abroad.

The case of Meningococcal infection was a mild one.

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES.	DEATHS.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis 42	Pulmonary Tuberculosis 4
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 3	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 1

HEALTH EDUCATION.

During Easter week an Exhibition, promoted by the Council of Social Service, was held on the premises of Adeyfield Secondary Modern School. It was designed to demonstrate the activities of public organisations, statutory and voluntary, which function in the Borough, and is believed to be the first of its kind.

In addition to exhibits showing the work of various branches of the County Health Authority, there was a comprehensive exhibit of functions of the Borough Health Authority. This included a large pictorial chart illustrating the various public health activities, with the Public Health Department offices as the hub of control; a revolving drum on which were depicted types of premises visited by the Sanitary Inspector in connection with hygiene; photographs lent by the Folkestone Chief Sanitary Inspector showing the Sanitary Inspector at work in connection with water supplies and food inspection; a model of an old cottage and a garden showing defects and nuisances which may arise; Petrie (germ culture) dishes showing colonies of organisms obtainable from an unclean knife, fork and spoon; a milk sampling outfit; cases showing dry rot and worm infection of timber; photographs showing possible action under the Housing Acts; a demonstration of the requirements of the Fireguards Act. Films on public health subjects were shown at frequent periods by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Exhibition was open for five days and it is understood that the attendance was about 1,500. Long detailed work, including drawing, painting, designing and carpentry was demanded for the preparation of this exhibition, and it represented, almost in its entirety, the working of the Sanitary Inspectors and their office. The County Health Authority exhibit was undertaken by the County Divisional Nursing Officer and the Nurses and Health Visitors in the Borough.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

STATISTICS

The Rural District comprises an area of 20,249 acres and is made up of the parishes of Kings Langley, Flaunden, Bovingdon, Great Gaddesden, Flamstead and Markyate.

Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1954	...	...	...	12,050
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954) according to rate books	...	...	...	3,650
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£72,775
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	£285

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

	Total	M.	F.	
LIVE-BIRTHS (Legitimate	201	91	110	BIRTH-RATE
				) per 1,000 of the
(Illegitimate	8	5	3	estimated resident population 17.3
STILL-BIRTHS (Legitimate	7	4	3	STILLBIRTH-RATE per 1,000
(Illegitimate	—	—	—	(live and still) births 32.4
DEATHS	...	...	122	DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 10.1

Deaths from Puerperal Causes 1

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	23.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	...	...	...	24.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	...	...	NIL
Actual number of deaths under one year:				
Legitimate	...	...	...	10) Total
Illegitimate	...	...	...	NIL) 10

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 61

Deaths from Measles (all ages) NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... NIL

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 122 deaths, 47 were attributable to Heart and Circulatory disease. There was one death from Respiratory Tuberculosis and 19 deaths attributable to other respiratory diseases. 24 deaths occurred from Cancer. There were no deaths from Influenza or Poliomyelitis. Four deaths occurred from motor vehicle accidents.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

Of the five deaths, four occurred in children under the age of four weeks. Three were caused by prematurity and one by cerebral haemorrhage. The fifth child died from Bilateral Mastoiditis and Bronchitis.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1954.

Visits and Inspections Made.

GENERAL :

Houses—Housing Acts	...	...	270
Infectious diseases	...	...	7
Water supply	..	...	11
Drainage	...	...	95
Moveable dwellings	...	...	99
Factories	...	...	7
Visits re. refuse collection	...	...	66
Visits re. refuse disposal	...	...	92
Schools	...	...	22
Miscellaneous	..	...	40
Reinspections	...	...	75
Interviews	...	...	75
Petroleum	...	...	8
Public houses	...	...	11
Council house inspections	...	...	124

MEAT AND FOODS :

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	18
Grocers	...	...	...	...	8
Dairies	...	...	...	...	3
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	4
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	12

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Notices Served and Complied With.

		Outstanding 31.12.53	Served 1954	Complied with 1954	Outstanding 31.12.54
Formal	...	Nil	12	12	Nil
Informal	...	35	111	91	57
		—	—	—	—
Total	...	35	123	103	57
		—	—	—	—

Nuisances and Defects Remedied.

Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Fireplaces	.	...	...	...	...	...	7
Houses with defective windows and doors							5
Dangerous structures	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Houses with defective roofs	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Water closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Wall and ceiling plaster	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
General dampness	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Pail closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Houses treated for bed-bugs—Council houses	...	Nil
Other houses	...	1
Premises treated for other vermin	...	...
Loads of bedding steam-treated	...	...
Houses disinfected after infectious disease	...	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Production and Distribution.

REGISTER :

Number of dairies registered (not being dairy farms)	2
Number of distributors of milk	...
Number of dealers licensed to sell tuberculin tested milk	...
Number of supplementary pasteurised licences	...
Number of supplementary sterilised licences	...

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Meat and Other Foods.

Slaughterhouses :

This year saw the resumption of private slaughtering from June onwards. There are four licensed slaughterhouses in the district.

During the year one prosecution was undertaken in connection with illegal slaughtering on unlicensed premises. The prosecution was successful.

The following table shows the extent of tuberculosis and other disease found on post-mortem examination of animals slaughtered in the district during 1954 :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excl- uding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	5	1	—	11	13
Number inspected	5	1	—	11	13
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	1	—	—	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	—	100%	—	—	7%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	20%	—	—	—	—

Other Food Premises :

There are four bakehouses, five fish-frying premises and 33 cafes and meal-preparing premises in the district.

The Canteen at Bovingdon Airport remained in its unsatisfactory condition for the whole of the year.

Registration of Food Premises under the Food and Drugs Act :

30 premises are used in connection with the manufacture or sale of ice cream, preserved food, etc. Of these, 20 are registered for the sale of ice cream. There is no manufacture of ice cream in the district.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Foodstuffs Found to be Unfit for Human Consumption :
 Meat and Meat Products 1 Pig's Liver.

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	69	7	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	12	13	—	—
TOTAL ...	82	20	1	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found :				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Reme- died	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Sanitary Conveniences— Unsuitable or defective ...	—	—	—	1	—	
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	1	—	

3. Outwork : Sections 110 and 111 Nil

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

H O U S I N G.

Council House Inspections.

The Sanitary Inspector's Survey (see Annual Report for 1953) was completed as far as possible in the winter of 1954. Completion has been deferred owing to increased pressure of work. It is to be noted that in all cases, unsatisfactory housing conditions recorded during the Survey have been remedied.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	347
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	392
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	247
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	270
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous and injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	61
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	153

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	63
---	-------------	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

(a) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs		Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—		
(a) by owners ... ... ...	...	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... ... ...	...	Nil
(b) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ... ...	...	3

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—				
(a) by owners	3			
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners 	Nil			
(c) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :				
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	10			
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1			
(3) Number of dwellings for which Undertakings were accepted 	12			
(d) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :				
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil			
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil			

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :—

Information not available.

During the year 1954, the following houses were :—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY :—

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	30	3-bedroom, non-parlour	57

(b) COMPLETED :—

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Prefabricated	30	2-bedroom bungalows (Unity)	
Permanent Brick ...	59	2 & 3-bedroom, non-parlour	72

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.54 was as follows :—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 UP TO 31.12.54 :—

Site	Number of houses	Type
Markyate, Buckwood Road ...	45	Brick, 3-bedroom parlour and non-parlour.
„ Buckwood Road ...	11	Arcon, 2-bedroom, Temporary.
„ Cowper Road ..	61	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour, 2-bedroom and 1-bedroom flats.
„ Parkfield ...	22	Brick, 2 and 3 bedroom, non-parlour.
Kings Langley, Rucklers L.	36	Uni-Seco, 2-bedroom, temporary (24).
„ „ Barnes Est.	45	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour (12).
„ „ Bury Est.	30	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour, and 2-bedroom.
„ „ Coniston Rd	6	Unity, 2-bedroom bungalows.
„ „ Wesley Est.	42	Brick, 3-bedroom, non-parlour; 2-bedroom and 1-bedroom flats.
Flamstead	53	Brick, 2 and 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour; Airey and Timber, 3-bedroom, parlour (10).
Chipperfield	36	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour; 2-bedroom and 1-bedroom flats.
Bovingdon, Hyde Meadows	118	Brick, Airey & Unity; 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour.
„ Old Dean ...	24	2-bedroom flats.
Gaddesden Row, Jockey End	12	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour.
Gt. Gaddesden	6	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour.
Flaunden	6	3-bedroom, non-parlour.

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMMENCED BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.54 :—

Site	No. of Houses	Type	No. Commenced	No. Completed
Bovingdon ...	30	2 & 3-bedroom, non-parlour.	30	—

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

(c) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) PROJECTED SINCE 1.1.53, i.e. SCHEMES ABOUT WHICH ARRANGEMENTS ARE IN HAND, BUT WHERE A START HAD NOT BEEN MADE AT 31.12.54 :—

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type
Kings Langley— Edmund Estate	32	2-bedroom flats (16), 3-bedroom flats (16).
Bovingdon	12	1-bedroom flats.
Chipperfield	16	3-bedroom houses.
Gt. Gaddesden	6	2 and 3-bedroom houses.
Gaddesden Row	6	2 and 3-bedroom houses.
Number of houses requisitioned at the end of 1954 ...		26
Number of hutments requisitioned at the end of 1954		43
Number of applicants for Council houses at the end of 1954		220

Caravans.

The series of prosecutions against one site owner came eventually to an end, and the most unsatisfactory site was cleared. Eight prosecutions were made by the Council. The defendant paid £113 in fines and £50 8s. 0d. in costs.

At the end of the year, there were seven sites with 55 caravans and also individual licences were issued to 24 caravans.

Caravan site development was very active on the northern boundary of the District at Pepperstock towards the end of the year.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Kings Langley is drained through the Colne Valley Sewerage Scheme. Drainage from the new Council estate at Bovingdon is received by the Airport Sewerage Works, but permission by the Central Authority for enlargement of the works to serve the main part of Bovington Village is deferred until 1957, although the sewer is already approved.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Markyate has a small sewage disposal plant consisting of septic tanks, filter beds and a humus tank; the plant has become overloaded. Flamstead is served by two systems of land treatment for slop water only. Enlargement of the Markyate Works to serve both Markyate and Flamstead is under consideration by the Central Authority.

Concern was felt during the year regarding the drainage arrangements at Great Gaddesden Village, as pollution of the river and of watercress beds was occurring; remedial works to prevent the worst troubles were enforced and an improved sewage disposal scheme which is under weigh should relieve this pollution.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The Council own three vehicles, two being 10 cubic yard side loaders and one 18 cubic yard self-packing vehicle. The collection interval for the Northern Parishes is fortnightly and the Southern Parishes 10 days.

At the end of the year, the increased development in the Southern Parishes compelled the occasional use of the spare vehicle to assist the normal gang.

During the year, the Council purchased a Bristol Angledozer for refuse tip control. The machine has been an unqualified success. No men are now employed on the refuse tips full-time. No sleeper roads have to be maintained.

The refuse tip at Bulstrode Lane, Bovingdon, was almost completely filled at the end of the year, and arrangements were made for a new tip at Nash Mills Lane, Kings Langley.

Night Soil Collection.

Weekly collection at night of pail closets is made by the Authority's cesspool machine at Bovingdon, Flaunden, Chipperfield and Great Gaddesden. Kings Langley and Markyate being sewered, there are very few pail closets, and these are dealt with privately. The disposal is into the sewage works at Bovingdon Airport and on to land acquired for the purpose in Great Gaddesden parish.

Cesspool Emptying.

The work is carried out by the Council on a payment basis. The mechanical failure of the vehicle at one period of the year gave considerable trouble, and the Council have agreed to purchase a second machine.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

WATER SUPPLIES.

Water Samples Taken During 1954.

Private	13 (7 unsatisfactory)
Public	10 (1 unsatisfactory)

The one unsatisfactory public sample was taken at Markyate. Tests showed the water supplied from the reservoir was quite satisfactory. Contamination may have occurred from the tap washer on a public standpipe.

Considerable work was necessary in connection with the private well-water supply to a restaurant. By carefully overhauling the piping, pump and storage system, the water was improved and is now satisfactory.

The work on the comprehensive scheme of water supply for the Northern Parishes was well in hand during the year. This consists of 14 miles of high pressure mains, 2 water towers and the construction of boosters and other equipment at Kensworth. The present well at Markyate will be augmented by the supply from Kensworth.

The utilisation of a new bore constructed by Luton Water Company at Friars Wash in 1954 is being observed with considerable interest. A very large volume of water has been drawn daily from this bore and the possible disturbance of subsoil water levels and of the supply from wells in that neighbourhood should be borne in mind.

Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains are shown in the following table :—

Parish	Population (approx.)	(a) Direct to Houses		(b) By means of Standpipes	
		Houses	Pop'n	Houses	Pop'n
Bovingdon	2,700	740	2,544	40	156
Flaunden	180	26	78	23	96
Kings Langley ...	4,200	1,318	4,160	12	40
Chipperfield	1,550	425	1,350	55	192
Flamstead	1,300	120	400	139	501
Great Gaddesden ...	1,050	67	250	89	338
Markyate	2,100	600	1,900	25	82
Total ...	13,080	3,296	10,682	383	1,408

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year 1954:—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	6	3	Nil
Whooping Cough	32	Nil	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) ...	1	Nil	Nil
Measles :	2	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas :	1	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning :	1	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia :	1	Nil	Nil
Infectious Hepatitis	4	Nil	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Measles	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Puerperal Pyrexia	Infectious Hepatitis
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 2 years	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 to 3 "	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 to 4 "	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
4 to 5 "	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 10 "	4	18	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 20 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 to 35 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 to 45 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 to 65 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and upwards	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	6	32	1	2	1	1	1	4

The case of paralytic poliomyelitis was a mild one and recovered.

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES DEATHS

Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	...	6	1
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	...	1	Nil

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

STATISTICS

The Urban District of Berkhamsted comprises an area of	1,982 acres
Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1954	11,560
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954) according to rate books	3,627
Rateable Value	£99,414
Sum represented by a penny rate	£393

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Total	M.	F.	
LIVE BIRTHS	(Legitimate	172	90	82	BIRTH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population 15.7
	(Illegitimate	9	5	4	
STILL- BIRTHS	(Legitimate	4	3	1	STILLBIRTH- RATE per 1,000 (live and still) births 21.6
	(Illegitimate	—	—	—	
DEATHS	...	119	58	61	DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population 10.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age :

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	27.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	...	...	...	...	29.1
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	...	...	...	NIL
Actual number of deaths under one year :					
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	5) Total
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	NIL) 5

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 61

Deaths from Measles (all ages) NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... NIL

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 119 deaths, 57 were attributable to Heart or Circulatory diseases. There were two deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis and 14 from other respiratory diseases. 22 deaths occurred from Cancer. There was one death from Influenza and two occurred from motor vehicle accidents. There were no deaths from Poliomyelitis.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

Of the five deaths, three occurred in children under four weeks of age; two of these were prematurely born—the other died from congenital heart disease. Of the two older infants, both died from congenital diseases.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1954.

Visits and Inspections Made.

COMPLAINTS :

Complaints received	448
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GENERAL :

Dwelling-houses inspected under Public Health and Housing Acts	292
Requisitioned premises	...	...	...	...	...	37
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	37
Dirty and verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	2
Housing enquiries—cases of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	15
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	65
Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	15
Drainage inspections	...	...	...	...	...	83
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	...	4
Common lodging houses	...	...	...	...	...	8
Revisits to premises under Notice	...	...	...	...	...	112
Swimming pools	...	...	...	...	...	4
Interviews with owners, builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	65
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	254
Sewage farm and tips	...	...	...	...	...	14
Pet shops	...	...	...	...	...	4
Hostels	...	...	...	...	...	21
Rodent control	...	...	...	...	...	1,479

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

MEAT AND FOODS :

Dairies and milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Provision stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Meat shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Cafe premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Market inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	100

SAMPLING :

Water—bacteriological	...	...	...	...	...	19
chemical	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Ice cream—bacteriological	...	...	...	...	...	6

NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH.

	Outstanding 31.12.53	Served 1954	Complied with 1954	Outstanding 31.12.54
Formal	...	—	22	21
Informal	...	9	113	94
	—	—	—	—
Total	...	9	135	115
	—	—	—	21

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS :

Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	48
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	8
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	12
Choked drains cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	66
W.C. fittings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	8
Door and window fittings	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sink fittings	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective floors	...	...	...	...	...	1
Overflowing cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	...	6
Washboilers renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	92
Moles	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pigeons	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bees	...	...	...	...	...	8
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	19

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT :—

Premises cleansed and limewashed	10
--	----

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Houses disinfected after disease	9
Houses cleansed and disinfected	1
Houses treated for vermin and household pests ...	15
Loads of bedding steam-treated	18
Wasps nests destroyed	55

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

One premises is registered under the above Act. Very little flock is used or stored and no sample was taken.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are two common lodging houses registered with the Local Authority. Both these premises have been on the register for many years and are reasonably maintained and well kept.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

One shop only is licensed under the Act. Close liaison is maintained with the local R.S.P.C.A. Inspector in ensuring the conditions of the Act are observed.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The Sanitary Inspector states :—

Milk Production and Distribution.

“The following licences were issued during the year :—

Dealers licence for sale of Pasteurised milk ...	2
“ “ “ “ “ Tuberculin Tested Milk	2
“ “ “ “ “ Sterilised milk	1
Number of dairy premises in the district	2

There are no bottling or pasteurising depots within the area and generally the dairy premises, which are well kept, are merely distribution depots for bottled milk which is brought in from other areas. There are only two dairy herds producing milk within the district and in both cases the producer is licensed under the Designated Milk Regulations.

During the year preliminary investigations were made by the Ministry of Food with a view to declaring the district a ‘Specified Area.’

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

The Minister of Food is empowered under Section 23 of the Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950, to make Orders specifying areas within which all milk sold by retail must conform to the requirements of the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953, or the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954.

As a result of the specification, only 'specially designated' milk may be retailed in the urban area. 'Specially designated' milk is tuberculin tested milk which is untreated, or pasteurised or sterilised milk which is treated by heat.

Information is now to hand that by Order, the Milk (Special Designation) Specified Area) Order, 1955, S.I. 1955, No. 315, the Berkhamsted Urban District, *inter alia*, is declared a specified area with effect from 21st March, 1955."

Ice Cream.

"The registration of premises under the Food and Drugs Act remains the same as reported last year—one premises being registered for the manufacture and sale and ten other premises for retail sale. The conditions of the Ice Cream Regulations are observed in every case.

The premises registered for sale only retail national proprietary brands of ice cream and the conditions of the Ice Cream Regulations are observed in every instance. Six samples of ice cream were submitted for provisional grading—the results being satisfactory."

Meat and Food Inspection.

"With the end of meat rationing the decentralisation of slaughtering at Tring abattoir became effective from July of 1954.

Earlier in the year the Council, in accordance with the Ministry's instructions, had circularised all local traders interested in the retail meat trade and convened a meeting at which the question of slaughtering facilities in the town was discussed. It was generally agreed that existing facilities would be sufficient.

Three applications were received by the Council for the licensing of slaughterhouses, and were approved subject to certain works being carried out. On economic grounds one application was subsequently withdrawn, with the result that at the present time two slaughterhouses are operative. One is used for occasional slaughter only, the other is extensively used.

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Both slaughterhouses are well maintained and no nuisance has arisen in connection with their use. The conditions of the Meat Regulations regarding notification of slaughter is observed. Only occasional ante-mortem inspection is made, but after slaughter all carcases are subject to post-mortem examination. Meat traders in the town take full advantage of the wholesale markets in other areas, both for home killed and imported meats.

The following table shows the extent of tuberculosis and other disease found on post-mortem examination of animals slaughtered in the district during 1954 :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excl- uding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	144	11	41	388	245
Number inspected	144	11	41	388	245
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :					
Whole carcases condemned	1	—	1	1	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	1	—	1	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	4.8%	9.0%	2.4%	.2%	.8%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	1	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ...	.7%	9.0%	—	—	—

Meat and Offal Condemned.

Tuberculosis	... ... ...	18 lbs.
Other Diseases	... ... ...	820 lbs.
Total	...	838 lbs.

Condemned meat and offal is disposed of by incineration—small amounts in the urban district—larger amounts taken and incinerated in the destructor of a neighbouring Local Authority.

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Retail meat stores and premises in the town are subject to frequent inspection and no complaint can be made regarding their conduct."

Foodstuffs Found to be Unfit for Human Consumption.

Tins, jars and packets	...	...	...	...	1,452
Eggs	...	...	...	...	325
Cheese	...	...	...	...	78 lbs.
Cereals	...	...	...	...	26 lbs.
Pig Carcase	...	...	...	...	1
Calf Carcase	...	...	...	...	1

Food Preparing Premises.

"The following is a statement of food preparing premises in the area which are subject to control under the Food and Drugs Act :—

Hotel restaurants kitchens	...	...	...	...	3
Snackbars and tea rooms	...	...	...	...	5
Cafes	...	...	...	...	5
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	4
Meat shops	...	...	...	...	12
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	5
Provision stores	...	...	...	...	19
School meals service kitchens	...	...	...	...	2
Works canteen kitchens	...	...	...	...	2

Including premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream, 30 premises are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (which provides for the registration of premises used for or in connection with the manufacture and sale of ice cream, sausages and certain preserved foods).

All premises are regularly inspected and in the main conform to a fairly high standard. The occupiers give a willing co-operation and any infringement is dealt with informally and is readily remedied. The Council have adopted byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938."

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred in the district during the year.

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	5	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	56	52	13	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	8	8	1	—
TOTAL ...	71	65	15	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found :				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Reme- died	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness	10	10	—	—	—	
Sanitary conveniences— Unsuitable	2	2	—	—	—	
Other offences	3	3	—	3	—	
TOTAL ...	15	15	—	3	—	

Outwork.

Making, etc., of wearing apparel 2
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URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

H O U S I N G.

I am indebted to Mr. R. E. Hulse, Engineer and Surveyor to Berkhamsted Urban District Council for the following summary of the position in regard to the provision of Council houses during 1954 :—

"The general trend towards a reduction in the rate of construction of municipal houses and an increase in private enterprise is noticeable from the return of the number of houses completed during 1954. A total of 60 municipal houses is 48 fewer than the previous year, whilst private enterprise at 37 is 15 higher. The ratio between municipal and private enterprise is likely to be more pronounced in 1955. The total number of new houses completed since the war is 564, made up of 424 municipal houses and 140 private ones.

The whole of the municipal development during the year was on Durrants Estate, which is the Council's principal post-war housing site, and is situated on the west-side of the town with an area of approximately 40 acres. At the end of 1954, there were 22 two-bedroomed houses in course of construction and plans had been completed for a scheme of 44 single person flats.

During the year the Council decided to proceed with the acquisition and development of a further housing estate which will be situated between Durrants Estate and Northchurch, known as Westfield Estate. It is anticipated that many of the dwellings to be built on this land will be used for rehousing displaced families from clearance areas.

The waiting list of applicants was reviewed again and a 'live' figure of 346 obtained. Of this number, 59 applications are with respect to flats or old persons' bungalows, and 287 applications are for houses. The 287 applications have been analysed and the following facts are revealed :—

(a) POSITION WITH REGARD TO ACCOMMODATION :—			
Tenant of accommodation ...	...	...	102
Sharing or sub-tenant ...	...	...	146
Tenant of service or tied accommodation			35
Hostels ...	...	...	4
(b) WHERE LIVING AND WORKING :—			
Living and working in district ...	...		126
Living in district and working elsewhere ...			65
Living elsewhere and working in district ...			15
Living and working elsewhere ...	...		62
Others ...	...	...	12
H.M. Forces ...	...	...	7 "

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

1. Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	292
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	404
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	47
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	47
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	102

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	79
---	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

(a) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(b) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	102
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	21
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	1

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

(c) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—			
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	3		
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	Nil		
(d) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :			
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil		
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	Nil		

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	8
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	15
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	60
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	7
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	3
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil

During the year 1954, the following houses were :—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY :

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	22	2-bedroom, non-parlour.	30

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

(b) COMPLETED :

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	60	1 and 2-bedroom, non-parlour. 3-bedroom parlour.	37

The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.54 was as follows :—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 UP TO 31.12.54 :—

Site	Number of Houses	Type
Highfield House Estate	30	Prefabricated bungalows.
Swing Gate Lane Estate	20	Brick, 3-bedroom, non-parlour.
Victoria Road ...	10	Unity, 3-bedroom, parlour.

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMMENCED SINCE 1.1.45, BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.54 :—

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type	No. Commenced	No. Completed
Durrants Farm Estate ...	430	2, 3 & 4-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour ; 1-bedroom, non-parlour ; old persons' bungalows ; single person flats.	386	364

(c) PARTICULARS OF OTHER SCHEMES PROJECTED—i.e. SCHEMES ABOUT WHICH ARRANGEMENTS ARE IN HAND, BUT WHERE A START HAD NOT BEEN MADE AT 31.12.54 :—

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type
Westfield Estate	196	2 & 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour, 1-bedroom, non-parlour, old persons' bungalows.

Number of houses requisitioned by the Authority at
31.12.54 2

Number of applicants for Council houses at end of 1954 346

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

Sewage Disposal Works.

The Engineer and Surveyor supplies the following account of the progress towards a new sewage works—

“The Council have obtained the approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to the Scheme for the new Sewage Works, tenders have been invited by public advertisement.

The Scheme, as approved by the Ministry, covers the construction of new screening chambers, detritus channels and storm overflow chamber, two storm water tanks, sedimentation tanks, five percolating filters, humus tanks, sludge pumping station, and sludge drying beds.

Certain sections of the old works are to be retained so that during times of rainfall when the infiltration into the sewage system is high, the flow in excess of the capacity of the sedimentation tanks can be passed into the storm water tanks, and, if necessary, then on to the six old percolating filters and old humus tanks.

The new works have been designed for a dry weather flow of domestic sewage of 450,000 gallons per day, plus an estimated infiltration of sub-soil water of 1,000,000 gallons per day, giving a total average rate of flow of 1,450,000 gallons per day through the works for an ultimate population of 18,000.”

WATER SUPPLIES.

The quality of the supply continues to maintain a high level of purity and no complaint has been received regarding quantity. The Urban District Council submits monthly samples for bacteriological examination; these are taken before and after treatment by chlorination. No action has been necessary for plumbo-solvent contamination.

Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains is shown in the following table :—

Population (estimated)	(a) Supply direct to Houses.		(b) Supply by means of Standpipes.	
	Houses	Population	Houses	Population
11,450	3,578	11,438	7	12

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year 1954 :—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	9	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	29	3	Nil
Measles	51	Nil	Nil
Acute Pneumonia	3	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	2	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	Nil	Nil
Infectious Hepatitis	5	Nil	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Acute Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Infectious Hepatitis
Under 1 year	—	3	2	—	—	—	—
1 to 2 years	—	3	2	—	—	—	—
2 to 3 "	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
3 to 4 "	1	5	1	—	—	—	—
4 to 5 "	—	2	4	—	—	—	—
5 to 10 "	5	13	35	—	—	—	—
10 to 15 "	2	1	3	1	—	—	1
15 to 20 "	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
20 to 35 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
35 to 45 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 to 65 "	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 years and upwards ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Age unknown ...	—	—	1	2	—	1	—
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	9	29	51	3	2	1	5

During the year a heavy infection of Sonne Dysentery occurred in the Northchurch Hostel for women and children, administered by the Hertfordshire County Council. During June and July, when 12 adults and 29 children were accommodated here, there were four mothers and 16 children found to be infected, including several babies.

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

The gross overcrowding and the carelessness in hygiene evinced by the mothers hampered preventive and remedial methods. All inmates and staff were sampled; talks on hygiene were given to the mothers; all persons with positive samples received treatment from their medical attendants and none were regarded as free from infection until two consecutive negative samples had been obtained. All school children at the Hostel were excluded from school. One case was removed to isolation hospital.

By the end of July infection seemed to have disappeared, but during September there was a recurrence. There were five cases of Dysentery and complete swabbing showed that eight adults and 11 children, including two babies, were infected. The cases were removed to isolation hospital and an attempt was made to remove carriers also, but this action was foiled by the refusal of mothers to allow their children's removal. In fact, however, one baby carrier and three other child carriers were removed to isolation hospital. The previous precautions carried out during the earlier outbreak were again put in hand. Infection seemed to have disappeared by November. The overcrowding, however, continued, and I cannot but regard this Hostel as a most likely focus from which infection of various types is liable to spread into the District.

Tuberculosis.

	NEW CASES.	DEATHS.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	10	2
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1	Nil

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

STATISTICS

The Rural District of Berkhamsted is composed of the parishes of Northchurch, Aldbury, Wigginton, Tring Rural, Nettleden (with Potten End), Little Gaddesden and Puttenham, which comprises an area of 17,572 acres

Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1954	... ... ...	5,830
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954) according to rate books	... ... ...	1,760
Rateable Value	... ... ...	£35,068
Sum represented by a penny rate	... ... ...	£137

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

	Total	M.	F.	
LIVE BIRTHS (Legitimate)	89	46	43	BIRTH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 15.8
(Illegitimate)	3	2	1	
STILLBIRTHS	...	...	...	Nil
DEATHS	... 53	30	23	DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 9.1

Deaths from Puerperal Causes NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

There were no deaths of infants under the age of one year.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 7

Deaths from Measles (all ages) NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... NIL

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 53 deaths, 29 were attributable to Heart or Circulatory diseases. One death occurred from Respiratory Tuberculosis and seven from other respiratory diseases. Seven deaths occurred from Cancer. There were no deaths from Influenza or Poliomyelitis. Two deaths occurred from motor vehicle accidents.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

There were no deaths of infants under the age of one year.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1954.

Visits and Inspections Made.

GENERAL :

Houses—Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	96
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	63

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Overcrowding ...	...	...	...	...	15
Infectious diseases ...	...	...	...	...	6
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	61
Drainage inspections and tests ...	...	...	...	...	128
Tents, vans and sheds ...	...	...	...	...	4
Factories, workshops and workplaces ...	...	...	...	...	7
Schools ...	...	...	...	...	7
Petroleum stores ...	...	...	...	...	8
Work in progress	...	...	...	...	412
Verminous premises	...	...	...	...	5
Cesspools ...	...	...	...	...	113
Canal boats ...	...	...	...	...	3
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	6
Rivers and streams	...	...	...	...	8
Premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	3

MEAT AND FOODS :

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	2
Cowsheds and dairies	...	...	...	...	6
Food stores	...	...	...	...	13

Notices Served and Complied With.

	Outstanding 31.12.53	Served 1954	Complied with 1954	Outstanding 31.12.54
Formal	...	1	5	1
Informal	...	7	12	16
	—	—	—	—
Total	...	8	17	17
	—	—	—	—

Nuisances and Defects Remedied.

Houses ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Drainage and cesspools ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	203
Waterclosets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

Disinfestation.

No disinfection was carried out during the year.

Swimming Baths.

There is one privately owned swimming bath for the public in the District. Early in the year under review, a new Wallace and Tiernan chlorinating plant was installed by the proprietor of the bath and samples of water taken after its installation proved satisfactory. The bath was very little used during 1954, due to unsatisfactory weather conditions.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Byelaws under Section 233 of the Public Health Act, 1936, with respect to swimming baths and bathing pools have been in force in the district since December, 1953.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Production and Distribution.

The number of persons on the Register at the end of the year was as follows :—

Cowkeeper/Retailers	...	...	...	...	...	14
Retailers (non-resident in the district)				...	...	10

Meat and Food Inspection.

Ministry of Food Circular MF 5/54 dated 24th March, 1954, placed the responsibility of licensing private slaughterhouses on the Local Authorities of the districts in which the premises are situated.

Subsequent applications for slaughterhouse licences were received from two slaughterhouse proprietors in the district. After inspection of the premises and the completion of minor works of repair, etc., the applications were approved on the 6th July, 1954.

The following table shows the extent of tuberculosis and other disease found on post-mortem examination of animals slaughtered in the district during 1954 :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excl- uding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	43	1	12	66	59
Number inspected	39	1	12	60	55
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	6	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	—	—	—	10%	9%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	9%

Two condemnations of unsound food, other than butcher's meat, were made during the year.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Food Premises.

The number of food premises in operation during the year was 20. A satisfactory condition of cleanliness and food handling has been maintained.

Ice cream was retailed from 15 premises within the Rural District. No premises are registered in the district for the manufacture of ice cream, the retailers referred to receiving their supplies from the larger wholesale firms.

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred in the district during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

- INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	2	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	...	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	9	7	—	—

- Cases in which DEFECTS were found Nil
- Outwork.**
Making wearing apparel 1

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

H O U S I N G.

1. Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—		
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	36	
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	48	
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	22	
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	29	
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1	
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	14	
2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—		
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	11	
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—		
(a) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	2	
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—		
(a) by owners	2	
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil	
(b) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	8	

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—					
(a) by owners	2				
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners 	Nil				
· (c) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—					
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	Nil				
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil				
· (d) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :					
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil				
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil				

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	29				
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	36				
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	193				
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil				
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	14				
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	57				
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil				
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil				

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

During the year 1954, the following houses were :—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY :

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	24	2 & 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour.	26

(b) COMPLETED :

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	20	2 & 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour.	36

The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.54 was as follows :—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 UP TO 31.12.54 :—

Site	Number of Houses	Type
Wigginton, Wick Rd.	14	3-bedroom, parlour, Brick.
„ Fieldway ...	8	3-bedroom, parlour, Brick.
„ Chesham Rd.	6	2 & 3-bedroom, non-parlour, Brick.
„ Highfield Rd.	14	2 & 3-bedroom, Brick.
Aldbury, Malting Lane	6	3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour, Brick.
„ Stoneycroft	12	3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour, Brick.
„ Berryfield ...	8	3-bedroom, parlour, Brick.
Wilstone, New Road ...	4	3-bedroom, non-parlour, Brick.
„ Main Street	2	3-bedroom, parlour, Brick bungalows.
Little Gaddesden—Cromer Close ...	30	2-bedroom, non-parlour; 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour.
L. Marston, Tring Rd.	8	3-bedroom, parlour, Brick.
Northchurch	2	3-bedroom, parlour, Brick.
Potten End—Vicarage Road	10	2-bedroom, non-parlour, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour, Brick.
„ „ —Hedgeside	28	Bungalows—Brick.
„ „ „	4	

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMMENCED SINCE 1.1.54, BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.54:—

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type
Long Marston—Bromley	24	3-bedroom, parlour (18), 4-bedroom, parlour (2), 2-bedroom, parlour (4). Number commenced at 31.12.54 = 12.

Number of houses requisitioned by the Rural District Council at the end of the year	Nil
Number of applicants for Council Houses at end of 1954	267

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Considerable discussion has taken place during the year on the question of sewerage and sewage disposal throughout the district, and it has been generally agreed that consideration should be given to the provision of schemes for the parishes of Aldbury and Wigginton, in addition to the scheme now in course of preparation for Potten End.

ALDBURY PARISH. A scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal is badly needed to serve the inhabitants of this village and at the time of writing this report, preliminary surveys have taken place.

LITTLE GADDESDEN PARISH. There are no main sewers in this parish, the majority of the properties being connected to cesspools.

NORTHCHURCH PARISH. In my two previous Annual Reports, the question of housing development on a portion of the Home Farm Estate was referred to, and as a result the existing private properties on the estate would be drained off to the Berkhamsted Urban District Council's sewers. Unfortunately, the acquisition of land for housing has not materialised and consequently no action has been taken with regard to the existing properties. The sewerage of this rather congested estate, where complaints as to overflowing cesspools are frequent, should receive early consideration.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

POTTER END PARISH. The scheme for sewerage Potten End to the Berkhamsted Urban District Council's disposal works was nearing completion at the end of the year and is to be submitted to the Urban District Council in the first instance for their comments. It is anticipated that work involving the rebuilding of the Berkhamsted Sewage Works will be commenced early in 1955 and it is proposed, subject to the availability of grants, to carry out the sewerage of the village of Potten End concurrently with the construction of the Urban District Council's works.

WIGGINTON PARISH. No progress has been made in the preparation of a scheme for Wigginton, but as already stated, the Council have agreed to the principle of sewerage the village.

Cesspool Emptying.

The requests by householders for the cesspool emptying service grew steadily during the year and it was eventually found impossible to cope with the demands. In order to satisfactorily meet the situation, the Rural District Council resolved in July, 1954, to purchase a second cesspool emptying machine. The machine was delivered to the Council on 10th January, 1955.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The Sanitary Inspector states :—

“No difficulties were encountered during the year with the refuse collection service, and it is gratifying to record that only two complaints were received. These arose during the summer holiday period, when shortage of labour slightly disrupted the scheme.

The Council continue to tip refuse at the Outwood Kiln, Aldbury, and regular treatment of the tip has been carried out to control rodent and fly breeding.”

Caravans.

The one licensed site at Northchurch continues to be well maintained and has proved in some small measure an asset to residents, some of whom have been faced with the difficulty of finding suitable housing accommodation.”

WATER SUPPLIES.

The parishes of Tring Rural, Puttenham, Wigginton and Aldbury receive constant water supplies from the Bucks. Water

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Board. Little Gaddesden, Potten End, Northchurch (in part) and the hamlet of St. Margarets are supplied by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company, who purchased the undertaking from the Great Berkhamsted Water Company. A brick lined well, 317 feet in depth, and owned by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company at Little Gaddesden, supplies that parish, and a water tower which is fed by the Berkhamsted mains is situated at Potten End for supply to that parish.

During the year a petition was received from the majority of the inhabitants of the hamlet of Nettleden requesting the Council to take steps to provide a supply of mains water. Negotiations were put in hand with the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company and a proposal, together with an estimate of the cost, was submitted and accompanied by an application for a grant towards the capital cost of the scheme under the provisions of the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1945. Unfortunately, the application for grant was not approved. This hamlet and the hamlet of Frithsden continue to rely on wells and boreholes for their water supply.

There has been no evidence of plumbob-solvency in the water, and no action was necessary in respect of contamination.

The water supplied by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company has a considerable degree of hardness. That supplied by the Bucks. Water Board is softened at their works.

Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains are shown in the following table :—

Parish	Population (approx.)	(a) Supply direct to Houses		(b) Supply by means of standpipes	
		Houses	Pop'n.	Houses	Pop'n.
Aldbury	880	261	843	13	45
Little Gaddesden ...	1,372	290	1,372	—	—
Netteden (with Potten End) ...	1,042	280	1,034	3	8
Northchurch	903	240	903	—	—
Puttenham	100	35	100	—	—
Tring Rural	737	200	700	12	37
Wigginton	998	298	998	—	—

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year 1954 :—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	4	2	Nil
Whooping Cough ...	7	1	Nil
Measles ...	83	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas ...	1	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning ...	1	1	Nil
Infectious Hepatitis ...	2	Nil	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Infectious Hepatitis
Under 1 year ...	1	1	1	—	—	—
1 to 2 years ...	2	2	2	—	1	—
2 to 3 "	1	1	7	—	—	—
3 to 4 "	—	—	8	—	—	—
4 to 5 "	—	—	3	—	—	—
5 to 10 "	2	3	56	—	—	—
10 to 15 "	1	—	4	—	—	—
15 to 20 "	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 to 35 "	1	—	1	—	—	—
35 to 45 "	—	—	1	1	—	1
45 to 65 "	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	4	7	83	1	1	2

Tuberculosis.

	NEW CASES.	DEATHS.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1	1
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	Nil	Nil

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

STATISTICS

The Urban District of Tring comprises an area of	4,407 acres
Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1954	... ... ... 5,290
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954) according to rate books	... ... ... ... 1,664
Rateable Value	... ... ... ... £32,715
Sum represented by a penny rate	... ... ... £130

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

	Total	M.	F.	
LIVE BIRTHS (Legitimate	62	36	26	BIRTH-RATE
				) per 1,000 of the
(Illegitimate	2	1	1	estimated resident population 12.1
STILL-BIRTHS	...	...	...	...
DEATHS	...	57	29	DEATH-RATE
				per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 10.8

Deaths from Puerperal Causes NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

There were no deaths of infants under the age of one year.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 10

Deaths from Measles (all ages) NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... NIL

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 57 deaths, 35 were attributable to Heart or Circulatory diseases. There were six deaths from Respiratory diseases. Ten deaths occurred from Cancer. There were no deaths from Tuberculosis, Influenza, Poliomyelitis or motor vehicle accidents.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

There were no deaths of infants under the age of one year.

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1954.

Visits and Inspections Made.

COMPLAINTS :

Number of complaints investigated	123
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GENERAL :

Houses—Public Health Acts	73
Housing Act	14
Infectious diseases	78
Overcrowding	...	...	...	4
Council house applicants	...	...	...	76
Council house inspections	...	...	...	397
Drainage inspections and tests	...	...	...	275
Cesspools	...	...	...	12
Building byelaws	...	...	...	368
Stables and piggeries	...	...	...	1
Factories	...	...	...	28
Outworkers' premises	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	33
Water supplies	...	...	...	19
Refuse collection	...	...	...	63
Verminous premises	...	...	...	2
Interviews with owners	...	...	...	176
Caravans	...	...	...	14
Schools	...	...	...	8

MEAT AND FOODS :

Butchers' shops and stalls	...	...	...	12
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	2
General food shops	...	...	...	37
Dairies	...	...	...	4
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	6
Cafes	...	...	...	7
Licensed premises	...	...	...	9
Bakehouses	...	...	...	3

Notices Served and Complied With.

	Outstanding 31.12.53	Served 1954	Complied with 1954	Outstanding 31.12.54
Formal	...	Nil	3	3
Informal	...	26	77	89
Total	...	26	80	92
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

Nuisances Abated—Defects and Contraventions Remedied.

Dwellings ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Food premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Factories ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Shops ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Houses disinfected after infectious disease ...	...	...	...	14
Houses treated for bed-bugs ...	...	...	...	Nil
Houses treated for other vermin ...	...	...	...	2
Loads of bedding steam-treated ...	...	...	...	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

A total of 82 inspections have been made to various food premises in the town. Conditions are generally satisfactory and owners co-operate in bringing the premises up to a reasonable standard. There is a general tendency for bakehouses and milk retailers to dispose of their business to larger concerns. The Clean Food Byelaws have been implemented in all premises inspected.

Milk Production and Distribution.

REGISTER : The number of persons on the register the end of 1954 was as follows :—

Cow-keeper-retailers ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Distributors ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Distributors (bottled milk only) ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dairy premises ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Licensed to sell pasteurised milk ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
,, ,, tuberculin tested milk ...	...	...	...	...	...	7
,, ,, sterilised milk ...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
,, ,, pasteurise milk ...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Ice Cream.

Ten premises are registered to sell pre-wrapped ice cream, there being no manufacturers in the town.

Meat and Food Inspection.

The Tring slaughterhouse, which is operating under a temporary licence, serves local requirements. Improvements were effected to bring the slaughterhouse up to the necessary standards. Meat inspection is carried out by Mr. G. E. Brogan, Senior Sanitary Inspector, Berkhamsted Urban District Council.

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

The following is a report on the year's work :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excl- uding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	322	26	225	1,735	1,036
Number inspected	322	26	225	1,735	1,036
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :					
Whole carcases condemned	—	3	—	33	11
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	29	5	1	37	36
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	9.0%	30.7%	.4%	4.0%	4.5%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :					
Whole carcases condemned	2	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	10	1	—	—	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	3.7%	3.8%	—	—	.2%

Weight of Meat and Offal Condemned.

Tuberculosis	... ... ...	1,761 lbs.
Other diseases	... ... ...	4,912 lbs.
Total	... ...	6,673 lbs.

Foodstuffs Found to be Unfit for Human Consumption.

Meat	... ... ...	125 lbs.
Tins	... ... ...	7
Cheese	... ... ...	63 lbs.

Licensed Premises.

The standard of public houses continues to improve year by year. One major scheme has been completed, and, in addition, four minor schemes are in hand.

Clean Food Campaign.

In connection with the increased interest in food cleanliness and the stress on the importance of the subject, the following information is provided :—

(a) NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE DISTRICT :

Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	10
Fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	1
General food premises	...	...	...	...	...	53

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

(b) NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 14 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND DAIRIES REGISTERED UNDER THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949:

Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	10
Preserved food premises	...	...	...	...	...	16
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	7

(c) NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS OF REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES :
Total inspections = 43. Four premises inspected were found to require minor improvements to bring them up to the necessary standard. These were completed by the end of the year under review.

(d) No new educational activity was commenced during the year.
(e) All condemned food (excluding meat condemned at the slaughterhouse) is buried at the refuse tip.

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	4	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	33	24	5	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	...	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	41	28	7	—

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found :			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Reme- died	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	4	4	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences— Unsuitable or defective ...	3	3	—	1	—
TOTAL ...	7	7	—	1	—

3. Outwork.

Section 110 : Number of Outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (i) (c) :—

Making wearing apparel ...	...	...	...	...	2
Lace, lace curtains and nets ...	...	...	...	...	1
Stuffed toys ...	...	...	...	...	1

Section 111 : Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Nil
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

H O U S I N G.

1. Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	...	...	...	61
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose				87
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932				Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose				Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	...	...		Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation				49

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 49

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

(a) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) by owners Nil
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners Nil

(b) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 3
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) by owners 3
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners Nil

(c) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil

(d) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :—

(a) (i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	30
(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	...				41
(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...				162
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	3
(c) (i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	6
(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases					28
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	Nil
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...	...	...	...	Nil

During the year, the following number of houses were :—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY :

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	10	3-bedroom, non-parlour (8), parlour (2).	51

(b) COMPLETED :

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
—	Nil	—	18

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.54 was as follows :—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 UP TO 31.12.54 :—

Site		Number of Houses	Type
Woodland Close	...	46	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour.
Gammel ...	...	24	" " "
Dundale Road	...	10	" " "
Meadow Road	...	6	" " "
Goldfield	...	8	" " "

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMMENCED SINCE 1.1.53, BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.54 :—

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type	Number Com-menced	Number Completed
Goldfield ...	10	3-bedroom — 8 non-parlour, 2 parlour.	10	—

(c) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) PROJECTED SINCE 1.1.53—i.e. SCHEMES ABOUT WHICH ARRANGEMENTS ARE IN HAND, BUT WHERE A START HAD NOT BEEN MADE AT 31.12.54 :—

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type
Goldfield ...	10	3-bedroom, 6 parlour, 4 non-parlour.

Number of houses requisitioned by the Local Authority at 31.12.54 Nil

Number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the year 198

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The disposal of sewage by broad irrigation remains relatively unchanged. The construction of new sludge beds has been completed, and plans are in hand for improving the distribution of the sewage on land used for the broad irrigation.

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Refuse collection is by direct labour once weekly, except in the outlying hamlets, which have a fortnightly collection. The controlled tips have been maintained in a satisfactory condition throughout the year.

Cesspool Emptying.

The Council have been able to secure the services of the neighbouring Local Authorities to meet this need.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The whole district is now supplied by the Bucks. Water Board. The water is chlorinated and the supply continues to be satisfactory in quantity and quality. The following table sets out particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the population supplied from public water mains :—

Population (estimated)	(a) Supply direct to Houses		(b) Supply by means of Standpipes	
	Houses	Population	Houses	Population
5,400	1,610	5,225	50	150

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year :—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	3	1	Nil
Whooping Cough	1	Nil	Nil
Measles	2	Nil	Nil
Infectious Hepatitis	1	Nil	Nil

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Group	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Infectious Hepatitis
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—
1 to 2 years	—	—	—	—
2 to 3 "	—	—	—	—
3 to 4 "	—	—	—	—
4 to 5 "	—	1	—	—
5 to 10 "	3	—	1	—
10 to 15 "	—	—	1	—
15 to 20 "	—	—	—	—
20 to 35 "	—	—	—	—
35 to 45 "	—	—	—	1
45 to 65 "	—	—	—	—
65 years and Upwards	—	—	—	—
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	3	1	2	1

During the autumn an outbreak of Epidemic Nausea occurred at a private boys' school, where nine out of ten boarders, two out of four resident staff, and about 50 per cent. of the 70 day boys were affected. Samples of food, vomit and excreta were examined bacteriologically, but produced no evidence of an infection. The outbreak was short and sharp and over in a few days.

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES.			DEATHS.		
Pulmonary ...	...	Nil	Pulmonary ...	...	Nil
Non-Pulmonary	...	3	Non-Pulmonary	...	Nil

**TABLE SHOWING BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES
AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES.**

Area	Birth- Rate per 1,000 Population	Death- Rate per 1,000 Population	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Live Births
ENGLAND AND WALES ...	15.2	11.3	25.5
Borough of Hemel Hempstead ...	20.2	8.2	14.7
Rural District of Hemel Hempstead	17.3	10.1	23.9
Urban District of Berkhamsted ...	15.7	10.3	27.6
Rural District of Berkhamsted ...	15.8	9.1	Nil
Urban District of Tring	12.1	10.8	Nil
SOUTH HERTS (No. 1) COM- BINED SANITARY DISTRICT	17.9	9.2	16.3

